

awarded by any level of government (Chapter 879, Acts of 1978). The Authority does not compete with private lending institutions since it must be assured prior to the granting of a loan that private capital is not available and loans are made at the prevailing market rate. Recipient firms, historically small in size and brief in experience, are usually considered "high risk" businesses by the private lender. The Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority is governed by five appointed directors, in addition to the Secretary of the Department of Economic and Community Development and either the State Treasurer or Comptroller. The functions of the Authority relate entirely to federal, State, and local contracts.

#### OCEAN CITY CONVENTION HALL COMMISSION

*Chairperson:* M. Joseph Manzer, 1982

*Vice-Chairperson:* Albert Berger, 1980

Elizabeth D. Sanford, 1981; John Dale Showell III, 1981; Henry Hanna, 1983

*Consultants:* Louis L. Goldstein, *Comptroller of the Treasury*; Harry W. Kelley, *Mayor of Ocean City*

Earl G. Baird, *Executive Director*

4001 Philadelphia Avenue  
Ocean City 21842 289-8311

The Ocean City Convention Hall Commission was created by Chapter 646, Acts of 1967. The Commission consists of five members, all of whom are appointed by the Governor for five-year terms. The Governor selects the Chairperson. At least two of the members of the Commission must be residents or property owners within the corporate limits of Ocean City.

The Ocean City Convention Hall officially opened in April 1970. It is operated for housing religious, business, and professional conventions, cultural events, industrial exhibits, trade shows,

and other events that might stimulate the tourist trade and economy of the State.

The Commission must submit a report annually to the Board of Public Works and to the Mayor and Council of Ocean City (Code 1957, Art. 41, secs. 405-406).

#### TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL FOR WESTERN MARYLAND, INC.

*Chairperson:* George C. Edwards

*Vice-Chairperson:* Mary Ellen Sollinger

*Executive Director:* Steven Kocsis

Suite 510, Algonquin Motor Inn  
Cumberland 21502 Telephone: 777-2158

The Tri-County Council for Western Maryland, Inc., was chartered as a nonprofit corporation on July 22, 1971, to serve Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties. The Council replaces the Governor's Council for Appalachian Maryland, originally established in 1968. The Council consists of nineteen voting members and two non-voting members. The Governor, on August 9, 1971, certified that the Council was an entity eligible for designation as a Local Development District under the provisions of Section 301, Title III, of the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965, as amended (P.L. 89-4).

The purpose of the Council is to function as a cooperative economic, social, and cultural development agency within Allegany, Garrett, and Washington counties by developing a comprehensive development plan for the region served; providing liaison with local, State, and federal agencies; preparing data and studies to support comprehensive development planning, including the recommendation of projects and activities to meet the public service needs of the region; and providing assistance in the implementation of the State's Appalachian development program in the region.

The Council is functioning under a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission covering 65 percent of its operating costs.